

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

- a) Specific Purpose of the Regulations and Factual Basis for Determination that Regulations Are Necessary

Section 63-301.546

Specific Purpose:

This section is being amended to instruct the County Welfare Department (CWD) on issuing a combined benefit allotment for the first and second month to those households that have applied for benefits on or after the 15th of the month and have been determined eligible for expedited service but verification has been postponed.

Factual Basis:

This amendment is necessary to comply with federal regulations at 7 CFR 273.2(i)(4)(iii)(C) and to ensure that households that apply on or after the 15th of the month who have been determined eligible for expedited service, but verification has been postponed, receive a combined benefit allotment for the first and second month. Current state rules did not allow the CWD to issue benefits for the first and second month at the same time, which conflict with federal regulations.

Section 63-301.546(a) (Handbook)

Specific Purpose:

This section is being adopted to instruct the CWD on issuing the third month's benefits to households that have been determined eligible for expedited service and the required postponed verification has been received. If the postponed verification is not completed before the end of the third month, the CWD shall terminate the household's participation and shall issue no further benefits.

Factual Basis:

Currently, the state regulations conflict with federal regulations. This adoption is necessary to be in compliance with federal regulations at 7 CFR 273.2(i)(4)(iii)(D).

- b) Identification of Documents Upon Which Department Is Relying

7 CFR 273.2(i)(4)(iii)(C) and (D)

c) Local Mandate Statement

These regulations impose a mandate upon county welfare departments. However, there are no state-mandated local costs in these regulations which require state reimbursement under Section 17500 of the Government Code because the costs are mandated by the federal government.

d) Statement of Alternatives Considered

CDSS must determine that no reasonable alternative considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of CDSS would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulations are proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

e) Statement of Significant Adverse Economic Impact On Business

CDSS has made an initial determination that the proposed action will not have a significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.